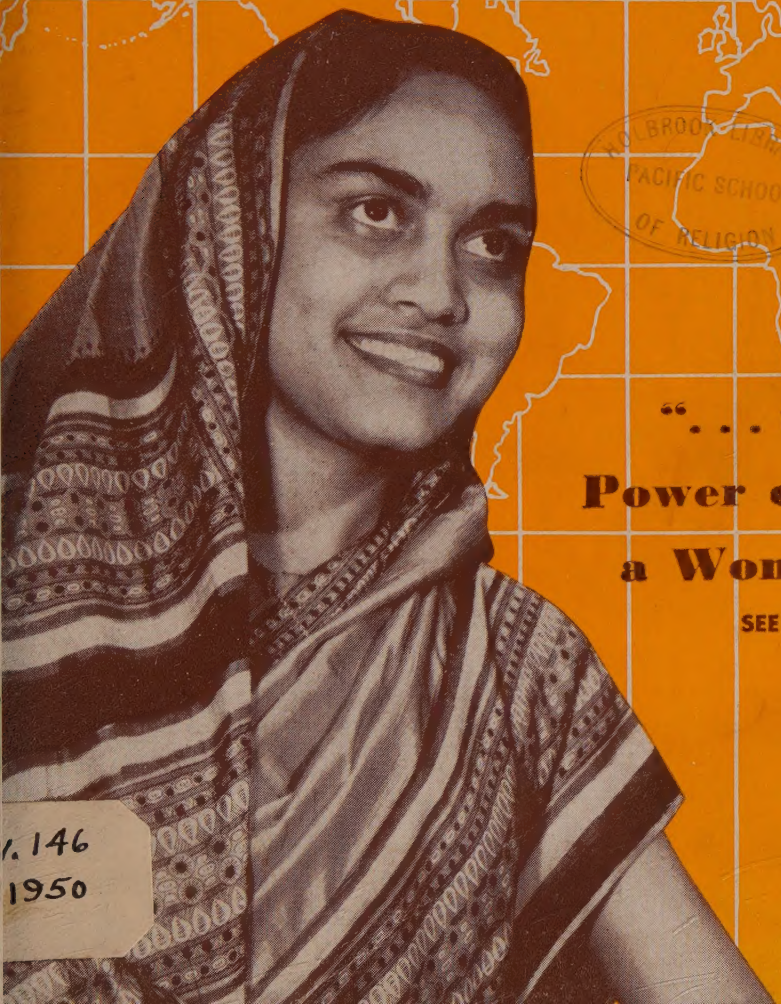
THE MISSIONARY
HERALD
AT HOME AND ABROAD

FEBRUARY, 1950

The Oldest Magazine of Continuous Circulation in the United States



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"... the Power of a Woman"

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v. 146
1950

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THE MISSIONARY

HERALD

AT HOME AND ABROAD

VOL. CXLVI, No. 1 FEBRUARY • 1950

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Cover photo: Vasanti Asirvatham, Madras, India

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48153 1950

"Never Underestimat

The spiritual and material possibilities of the World Day of Prayer, February 24th.

ANDREW VANCE McCRACKEN

Women are a controversial subject, and the editor confesses freely that he is prejudiced — on the distaff side.

Statistics and some observable facts seem to buttress the opinion that, although this may still be a man's world, women are increasingly influential and effective in its affairs.

For example, women (particularly American women) are recognized today as the financial controllers of the world of industry and commerce.

INTELLIGENCE AND SKILL

It has been estimated that they do approximately 90 per cent of all the retail purchasing in the U. S. Most advertising is addressed to women. Incidentally, much of the most glamorous advertising copy is produced these days by women—and those in the field known personally by the editor are persons of great intelligence and skill.

Then, too, it is not, as some cynics argue, merely their husbands' earnings that women are spending—not by many dollars. More and more wealth is passing directly into feminine hands and is being handled wisely and well. There are those who contend that before long women will dominate the investment field as they presently do that of retail purchasing.

In addition, largely as the result of the war, women in many countries are assuming responsibilities and making decisions which have always been the prerogative of men, and for which the ladies have had but a short time to prepare. Leadership has been forced upon them by circumstances.

POSTWAR LEADERSHIP

For example, reports indicate that the women of Germany are carrying more than their share of the burdens of physical rehabilitation as well as the tasks of leadership in the moral and spiritual recovery of their country. It is so in other countries such as Japan, and they are doing the job with wisdom and devotion.

Although few newspapers mentioned the Women's Joint Congressional Committee when the 81st Congress went into session in early January, it is nevertheless true that this committee, representing an increasing number of American women, is one of the most active and powerful lobbies in Washington. And its voice will be heard in Congress on such questions as federal aid for education, health insurance and many international problems.

CENTER OF OPERATIONS

And in spite of their widening political, social and educational interests, it is still true that women stand basically at the center of operations —in the home, in the community, and in the church.

ne Power

of

Woman"

Among foreign students who receive help from World Day of Prayer offerings and who will return home to teach are Luz Ausejo, (left), the Philippines, and Ni Ni, from Burma.

Even so, women's actual influence, important as it is today, has not yet reached its full potential. Why is this so? It is mainly because womanpower is neither sufficiently organized nor effectively channeled. In

other words, the power of womanhood needs to be brought to bear more directly upon the world's vast problems.

And this is precisely what the World Day of Prayer, observed on the first Friday in Lent (February 24, 1950), can do for the women of the Protestant churches in approximately ninety countries and in some 13,000 communities here in the U. S.

COHERENT INFLUENCE

The World Day of Prayer can gather together into a single coherent body of creative influence the spiritual dynamics and the financial strength of the otherwise isolated and unorganized Protestant women of the world! Of course, every church, every minister and every woman must prepare carefully for the occasion and participate creatively.

If this is done, here, then, are a few of the pressing human needs, spiritual and material, to which the ever-growing strength and redemptive goodwill of the women in our Congregational Christian churches can be applied:

Eight interdenominational Christian colleges for women in India, Japan and China are dependent upon the World Day of Prayer offerings to support at least a part of their program. The enrolments of these colleges are high. Their spirit is hopeful. And they are in a strategic position to train many Christian leaders for the Orient. All eight colleges face unparalleled opportunities today.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

Many of the 26,000 foreign students now studying in more than 1,000 colleges in the U. S. have come to know the helpful services of the Committee on Friendly Relations, supported in large part by the prayers and offerings of the World Day of Prayer.

Vasanti Asirvatham of Madras, India, whose picture decorates the cover of this issue of *The Missionary Herald*, a graduate of Wellesley College and now studying at Columbia University, knows of the services of the Committee on Friendly Relations and, because of her first-hand knowledge of what it does, she is joining in the observance of the World Day of Prayer. The offerings help to meet the individual needs of these future leaders from the time when they apply in their homelands for entry to the United States.

World Day of Prayer gifts will be turned into many helpful ministries here in the U. S. The Home Missions Council, representing twenty-three Protestant denominations, carries on an extensive Christian program of recreation, education, child care, counseling and worship for the migrant workers of our country. Because American women pray together on February 24th, this program will be strengthened.

HOME MISSIONS INCLUDED

Students in government boarding schools for American Indians have a religious program under trained directors; Negro sharecroppers in the South will enjoy a fuller religious and social life; and illiterate Navajos will learn to read — because of the funds made possible by the World Day of Prayer.

Will you—and the women of your church — unite with the Protestant women of ninety countries and some 13,000 communities in the U. S. to pray on the first Friday in Lent (February 24, 1950), and to make your sacrificial offering? Thus will the Christian influence of the Protestant women of the world reach a new and fuller potential!

The cover picture of Miss Asirvatham by courtesy of Missions Public Relations Office.
Illustration on page 2 by courtesy of Monkmeyer Press Photo Service, and on page 4 by the Missions Public Relations Office.

Why Give to Missions in *Communist China?*

ALBERT L. FAUROT

"Why should I keep on giving to missions in Communist China?" Are you one of the many Congregational Christian church members in America asking yourself this question?

If so, we, your missionaries of Fukien, would like to answer it for you, as we begin the fourth month of life under the new government, and enter the one-hundred and third year of missionary work in Fukien.

"Freedom of Worship" and "Protection for Foreigners" were two of the slogans which were posted in proclamations a few hours after the occupation of Foochow by Communists on August 17, 1949. Without attaching undue significance to such statements, we wish you to know that, to date, all churches, schools and hospitals have been able to continue, and missionaries have been able to live and work much as before.

Meanwhile Christian institutions and individuals need financial help as never before. We believe it is the duty and privilege of the older (U.S.) churches to give this help to the newer churches in China, and to do it in increasing measure because of the new position of the church. The Chinese church, while becoming progressively more independent, is still far from self-supporting. Under the new regime all classes alike are in economic straits, due to increased taxation and reduced earnings. Church members are less able than formerly to give to the church. Parents are unable to pay school fees. The sick cannot pay for hospitalization.

Missionaries are still wanted and needed. In line with a long-standing policy of your American Board for Foreign Missions in China, we are continuing to turn over more and more responsibility for administration and planning to Chinese leaders. Yet it is a tact that those leaders in all phases of the work are still very dependent on and eager for the advice and cooperation of missionary colleagues. The hope is repeatedly expressed that all missionaries, who possibly can do so, will remain to work with the Chinese church in this new era. Our remaining depends on the continued giving of church members throughout America.

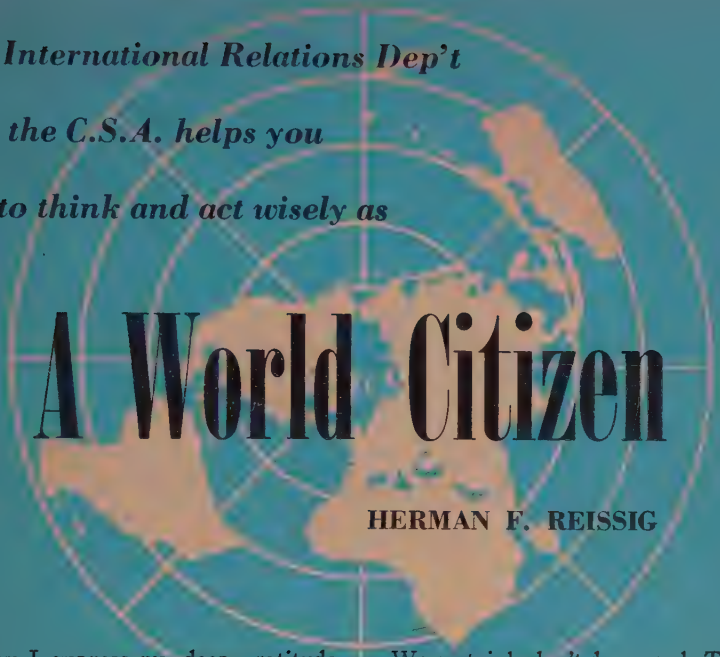
Communism presents to Christianity in China the greatest challenge it has had since the days of the first missionaries. The church in China today stands, more conspicuously than ever before, for what we Christians believe to be the truth for the world. We want you to understand that what you give will go into the hands of those who believe and teach as you do.

For us to stop upholding the Chinese churches in this hour of their great need, would be to raise grave doubts in their minds as to the sincerity of our faith, and the truth of our gospel of a Universal Church. On the other hand, for us to continue to help them will strengthen their faith and ours in the ultimate victory of truth and love and peace in the world.

Mr. Faurot, appointed a Congregational Christian missionary by our American Board for Foreign Missions in 1940, is the Chairman of the Publicity Committee of Foochow Mission in China.

The International Relations Dep't of the C.S.A. helps you to think and act wisely as

A World Citizen



HERMAN F. REISSIG

"May I express my deep gratitude for the privilege of attending the seminar last week. The high quality of the sessions and the outstanding reputation of the speakers made this a memorable experience."

WORLD ORDER SEMINARS

So wrote a Massachusetts minister after attending one of the World Order and United Nations seminars presented by the international relations department of the Council for Social Action. Two of these seminars are held in New York City each year. To the one held last October came ministers and lay people from nine states. For three days they listened and asked questions, covering such subjects as atomic energy control, the Point IV program, Germany, Great Britain's labor government, and the controversy between Israel and the Arab world.

This is one small part of the answer to the question, "What does the international relations department of the C.S.A. do?"

We certainly don't do enough. There is only one executive officer, with the part time help of a secretary. But we are trying to give some help to the people of our churches in the tangled maze of current international relations. Let me tell you a little more about our work.

Two professors of political science, several parish ministers, two women and two laymen with wide experience are members of our International Relations Committee. Meeting for a full afternoon each month, this committee always has before it one question, "What is the Christian position on the major international issues now confronting our people?"

ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL

What, for example, should an intelligent Christian think about the proposed plans for controlling the use of atomic energy? Under the guidance of Prof. William Fox of Yale, the committee spent most of one meeting trying to find an adequate answer.

The International Relations Department spends much time with groups from our churches who wish to visit the U.N. headquarters. *Above*, group of young people from Vermont visits the U.N.

When the committee thinks it has formulated a satisfactory answer to any important question it prepares a provisional statement. This is sent forthwith to each of the eighteen directors of the C.S.A. If then they approve the statement, it is submitted to the appropriate governmental agency — not as an expression of the opinion of all the members of our Congregational Christian churches but as the considered judgment of the Council for Social Action, which our churches have designated as their official agency. The statement is also sent to all ministers and social action chairmen of the denomination in the hope that it may provide guidance to our members in reaching their own conclusions.

WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN

Many people are skeptical about the attention government officials give to communications from individuals and organizations. "Do you think they really read them?" The answer need not be a guess. Yes, they do!

A letter from the Council for Social Action to the Secretary of State goes first to the Division of Public Liaison where a memo identifying our organization is attached. Then the letter goes to the desk of the State Department officer who is directly in charge of the matter in regard to which we have sent our opinion. Our letter may further be quoted in one of the regular summaries of letters from non-governmental organizations. These are prepared in the State Department and put on the desk of all Department officers who have something to do with policy making. (One of our letters brought a reply personally signed by the President.)

Your opinion on foreign policy counts! This fact needs to be emphasized. When you write a brief and thoughtfully worded letter to our government it does not go into the wastebasket. It goes to the desk of an officer and is seriously considered. If the Council for Social Action, or any other reputable organization, gives careful

thought to some aspect of international relations, puts its opinion in a letter or statement and sends it to Washington it becomes a part of the expressed public opinion which, ultimately, shapes our international relations. If our foreign policy is not what you would like it to be, you have to remember that there are 149 million other citizens. While your opinion may seem correct, it is not necessarily that of the majority.

CURRENT INTEREST MATERIALS

The seminar method and the process of bringing our judgment directly to the attention of government are only two aspects of our work. Requests come every day from our churches. Young people, women's organizations, local associations continually ask for materials on some subject of current interest. If we do not have what is wanted, we tell the inquirers where they can get it. We may refer them to such excellent agencies as the American Association for the United Nations or the Foreign Policy Association. We make it our business to know what is going on and where to turn for information. We prepare program materials. The International Relations Secretary, like the other C.S.A. staff members, visits local churches, attends State Conference and association meetings. The underlying theme is always the same, but the immediate topic relates to a specific situation. It may be China, Russia, Point IV or over-all foreign policy. But we always come back to the basic question. What is the Christian point of view? What

We believe that the United Nations is an expression of man's spiritual nature in an advanced political organization. *Below,* visitors to the United Nations observe committee in session.

should we, being Christians, think and do about this problem? It is a major premise of the Council for Social Action that Christians share responsibility as Christians for public character and action. The churches cannot and must not dictate to government. But they can and must help to shape society in accordance with a Christian conscience. We long ago renounced the spiritually defeatist doctrine that religion is one thing and politics quite another. Politics, including international relations, is, we believe, potentially one of God's instruments for building his kingdom on earth.

TODAY'S MAJOR ISSUES

To what major issues is the department of international relations presently giving its attention? There is space to list only a few of them. Support of the United Nations is near the top. We believe that the United Nations is an expression of man's spiritual nature in an advanced political organization. It leads toward the ultimate Christian goal of an organically united humanity. Through the patient, day to day work of its many agencies, the U.N. provides us the best grounds we have for hope that a just and peaceful world order can be brought out of the present disorder. We spend much time with groups from our churches who wish to visit the U.N. headquarters. Forty-five young people came to New York recently from Vermont. We made reservations for them at the U.N., arranged their overnight lodging, met with them on their arrival and gave them background information. We received many letters from these young people afterward telling us how much their U.N. tour had meant to them.

OUR VIGOROUS SUPPORT

We gave vigorous support to the Marshall Plan when it was under debate in Congress. We believe it is a practical expression of goodwill at the highest levels of responsibility. The June, 1949, issue of our magazine, *Social Action,* contained a series of competent discussions entitled, "China, Communism and Christianity." We are trying to widen the understanding of people as to what is going on in China. This will help to form a more mature public opinion on this difficult issue. The President's proposal, known as Point IV, to make our American technological skill available to underdeveloped countries has engaged our active interest. The October issue of *Social Action* carried an excellent symposium in regard to that projected program. We urge our people to acquaint themselves with the Point IV program, and if they agree as to its value, to support it when it comes up in Congress for legislative action.

We are presently giving attention to Germany and Japan. In respect to work in both nations the international relations department of the C.S.A. and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions have much in common. Our motives and objectives are identical. We speak the same language of Christian faith and are joined in presenting the various aspects of a single Christian message.

IF WE CAN HELP YOU

We cooperate closely with the Department of International Justice and Goodwill of the Federal Council of Churches. A secretary of the Federal Council's department is a member of the C.S.A. International Relations Committee. The C.S.A. secretary assigned to this department is a member of the Federal Council's agency.

If you believe that we can help you to think more clearly and act more wisely as Christian citizens, please write to us. We will try to serve you competently. That is what we are here for.

Mr. Reissig is International Relations Secretary of the Council for Social Action.
Photos by D. Kinsley and United Nations.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

MARCH 12, 1950

for the Needs of the world

.. for the Needs of the world

through Relief and Reconstruction

Caves are homes for 150,000 Lebanon refugees

A new relief problem has developed in 1950. It is that of refugees — millions of them! 150,000 refugees in Lebanon need expansion of C. C. Service Committee's school program. Our Service Committee share in resettlement of DP's in U.S. must be one of our major concerns in 1950.

Shelter, but hardly a home for a Greek family

Greece, in which we Congregational Christians have invested funds and personnel for years, and a land in which a war of ideas has been going on, needs our urgent help now for rehabilitation. Pierce College students are being trained here for future leadership by our C. C. Service Committee.

German DP's receive supplies from Hugo Becker

"No, you can't build peace on empty stomachs," declares the Rev. Hugo Becker, Congregational minister of Oregon, as he and associates take food, clothing, faith, and courage to Protestants in D.P. and refugee camps, Germany, in cooperation with World Council and German churches.

Service Committee helps 500 families in Naples

In Italy, our Service Committee is providing: material aid and health services to 500 families still living in the Naples caves and to families moved to barracks; also feeding and educational program for 100 children; summer camp for 200; plus handicraft classes for many adults.

"Bear ye one another's burdens,

Sunday, March 12, 1950

n Our Christian World Mission

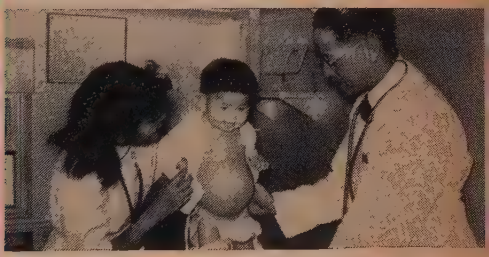
Through Church World Service, our interdenominational relief agency, we are supporting youth work among the refugees (12,000,000 in Germany) of Europe; providing food parcels and clothing; maintaining interchurch and relief programs; supporting other work we cannot do alone.

German refugees receive clothing from C.W.S.

To revitalize church life, and to rebuild the inner life of men, we support the "Interchurch European Aid" program of the World Council of Churches which assists pastors and theological students. We also share in the support of the World Council's Ecumenical seminar at Geneva.

A new church is built in Europe with our help

In those areas of North China and Japan where war wrought its havoc and left its ineffaceable mark, the missionaries of our American Board for Foreign Missions are carrying forward a program of relief among Chinese and Japanese workers whose desperate plight we cannot ignore.



Our American Board serves children in China

It was more than ninety years ago that our first missionaries sailed aboard the *Morning Star* for the Philippines. Today we must augment our historic ministry by equipping medicinal clinics, mobile T.B. units, rural relief projects to insure a flame of faith and glow of health.

Our Philippine medical clinics are invaluable

nd so fulfill the law of Christ"

EITHER / OR

We Americans, reading of our government's work abroad in helping to rebuild the economic life of nations, are tempted to believe that the problem of relief and reconstruction is being solved by government agencies alone, relieving us of personal responsibility as Christians.

Nothing could be less true. Political agencies cannot revitalize the spiritual life of any nation. This task belongs to spiritual agencies: i.e., to our churches. And every dollar given by American Protestants for relief and reconstruction is transmuted into a token of God's redemptive love.

As we enter this second half of the 20th century, we face history's "Either/Or." The war and its aftermath have left a spiritual vacuum. Who will fill this vacuum if we do not? The answer should be clear to all who read the newspapers. We are offered no other alternative. It is "Either/Or."

Our Congregational Christian goal in *One Great Hour of Sharing* is $500,000. We are confident that all our churches will participate with self-forgetful love. Nineteen Protestant denominations are joining hands for this urgent job — each doing his full part. Will you?

How You Can Help

1. *Study* the relief and reconstruction needs, as outlined briefly on the preceding two pages, knowing that each item is but one instance of a large, compelling and unmet challenge to Christian compassion.

2. *Listen,* and invite your friends to join you in listening, to the radio broadcasts which describe the work of relief and reconstruction among refugees, young people and churches where war wrought its havoc.

3. *Attend* church on Sunday, March 12th, making a substantial sacrificial gift. Your minister has received full information about the program of *One Great Hour of Sharing,* and will give you full details.

4. *Send* your gift to your minister, or mail your check to Harold B. Belcher, 14 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass., if you cannot go to church March 12. Make all checks payable to Harold B. Belcher, Treasurer of Relief and Reconstruction.

Edgar H. S. Chandler, *above, right,* receives congratulations from Fred W. Ramsey, Executive Vice President of Church World Service.

SERVICE COMMITTEE DIRECTOR CALLED TO GENEVA POST

EMERSON G. HANGEN

After three and a third years of service as Director and Executive Secretary of the Congregational Christian Service Committee, the Rev. Edgar H. S. Chandler resigned this position at the end of 1949, in order to accept a new and important responsibility with the World Council of Churches. At first Mr. Chandler's office will be located in Munich, Germany, where he will be Director of Overseas Operations for Church World Service.

Later this year he will move to Geneva, Switzerland, to the staff of the World Council of Churches as Director of Field Operations in the service of refugees of the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees.

As the Congregational Christian representative on the Board of Directors of Church World Service, Inc., during the past few years, Mr. Chandler was brought into intimate contact with the problems with which he will deal in his new assignment; and because he was so familiar with the field he was honored by the Board with this important post of responsibility.

Mr. Chandler came to the Directorship of the Service Committee of our denomination in September, 1946. At the time he was called to this position he was Fleet Chaplain of all the Naval Forces in the European, Mediterranean and North African waters.

Under his leadership the Service Committee has been strengthened and its work has expanded in a very encouraging fashion. He has rendered splendid service to our fellowship during some very difficult years of post-war adjustment. He goes to his new post, having earned the gratitude of our denomination for his leadership during these years, and with our prayers for his continued success in the place of high honor and increased responsibility to which he has been called.

Mr. Hangen is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Congregational Christian Service Committee.

Illustration by courtesy of Church World Service.

Harold W. Hackett
ELECTED I. C. U. VICE PRESIDENT

DOROTHY P. CUSHING

Harold W. Hackett, American Board missionary has been elected Vice President of the I.C.U.

A Christian layman and a business man with broad experience in Japan where he worked for over twenty years as a missionary of the American Board for Foreign Missions, Harold W. Hackett, for the past three years associate treasurer of the American Board in Boston, has been elected a vice president of the new International Christian University in Japan.

Mr. Hackett will take up his duties in Tokyo in February, 1950, and will be responsible for the business administration and general financial affairs of the University and for the details of the building of the plant at Mitaka on a 350 acre campus.

There are few Americans with a better understanding of things Japanese than Mr. Hackett, who, as a layman, made many advantageous contacts with the Japanese, and with American business and professional circles including the American Consulate. For a time he was President of the American Association made up of such representatives.

A native of Wisconsin, Mr. Hackett is an alumnus of Berea College and has taken graduate study at Columbia University and Harvard University. He first went to Japan in 1920 as American Board Mission treasurer and business manager, as well as treasurer of Kobe College. Mr. Hackett still remains a missionary of our American Board.

He was language instructor for a time in the foreign section of the Imperial Police Department of Hyogo Prefecture and this brought him in touch with Japanese officers as well as with young men going into Japanese embassies abroad.

In World War I, Mr. Hackett was in the U.S. Army, and in World War II he was a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy. In 1946, Mr. Hackett made a trip to the South Seas to inspect the work of the American Board in the Marshall and Caroline Islands, traveling 34,000 miles.

DANIEL HAND EDUCATIONAL FUND FOR COLORED PEOPLE

Income for the month of November, 1949	$ 2,968.05
Income for 6 months ended November 30, 1949	$29,761.31

RAY GIBBONS

What is the Council for Social Action?

Why is the C.S.A. necessary?

The Christian churches within the last century have confronted new problems. They have had to deal with powerful forces arising out of the rapid industrialization of society. Crowded cities, rural and urban slums, unemployment, two world wars and political dictatorships have challenged the Christian conscience.

Christianity seeks to save the whole man, individual and social. It claims the Lordship of Christ over all areas — family, community, economy, races and states.

The task of humanizing the impersonal forces of our technological age calls for the best effort of Christian men and women through the agencies established by our churches. Of these, the Council for Social Action is the one particularly constituted for leadership in this field.

What is it for?

"This Council shall be the agency of the Congregational Christian churches for helping to make the Christian gospel more effective in society, national and world-wide, through research, education and action . . . ." (General Council By-Laws)

What is the C.S.A.?

"The Council for Social Action is a body created by and responsible to the General Council of Congregational Christian churches." (General Council By-Laws)

Why and when was the Council founded?

As a climax of many pioneer social movements in our churches after the Civil War, the Council for Social Action was set up at Oberlin in 1934 as the special arm of our Congregational Christian churches. It was constituted an integral part of our denominational structure and was commissioned to work for our churches and constituency in all areas of social tension.

What is its job?

"In its research, the Council will aim to be impartial, its only bias being that of the Christian view of life; its educational efforts will be directed primarily toward the local churches but will also envisage the cultivation of public opinion; in action, the Council may on occasion intercede directly in specific situations." (General Council By-Laws)

How does it educate?

It does so through publications and periodicals, through conferences and seminars, and through weekly newsletters, sermons and addresses. The Council also encourages the formation of study-action groups, and provides literature and program suggestions for the use of such groups in our local churches.

How does it conduct research?

It does so through a staff of men who specialize in social issues. These consult with recognized authorities and then report to a committee of church leaders well-known for their competence in each department of social research.

Special commissions are often appointed for further study. In this way the most careful effort is made to secure accurate information. When all these steps have been taken the Council decides on what specific issues to take up, what position should be taken and what action should be advised or urged.

How does the C.S.A. cultivate public opinion?

It does so through cooperation with the Federal Council of Churches, by means of press releases and occasional radio programs, or by organized campaigns on particular issues such as the Marshall Plan.

How does it take action?

It does so through petitions to government, by the publication of Congressional voting records, by the presentation of testimony in line with General Council positions on a few major bills (i.e. Housing, Federal Aid to Education, the Marshall Plan and Migratory Labor), and through public hearings or briefs in court, *Amicus Curiae*.

Who elects the Council?

"It comprises eighteen persons, serving on a volunteer basis nominated by the Nominating Committee of the General Council in consultation with the nominating committee of the Council for Social Action and elected by the General Council at its biennial meeting." (General Council By-Laws)

A Body of Associates, approximately 250 in number, gives constructive advice and support. The Associates may vote on all questions and matters brought directly to the floor of the General Council by the Council for Social Action.

Who directs the Council?

They are pastors of churches, teachers in colleges and theological seminaries, housewives and professional women, businessmen and farmers, and a representative of labor. All are members of Congregational Christian churches.

How is it organized?

By departments: Industrial, Legislative, International, Racial and Agricultural Relations. Each has a full-time secretary with an active committee of Congregational Christian church members, selected for their competence and interest in the field. The secretary and his committee meet regularly to advise on issues and program.

Who makes up the staff?

Ray Gibbons, Executive Director; Francis W. McPeek, Secretary for Industrial Relations; Thomas B. Keehn, Legislative Secretary; Herman F. Reissig, Secretary for International Relations; Galen R. Weaver, Secretary for Racial Relations; Shirley E. Greene, Secretary for Agricultural Relations. Kenneth Underwood edits *Social Action.*

All are ordained Congregational Christian ministers in good standing, with many years of specialized training and experience in church and social work.

How is the C.S.A. financed?

By the regular benevolence giving of Congregational Christian churches. Four per cent of the denominational budget is designated for this work. Individuals may and do contribute either directly to the Council or through their local churches.

The Missions Council, representing the Board of Home Missions, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and the Council for Social Action, is the agency for fund raising and promotion.

How does the Council issue public statements?

It does so on the recommendation of an appropriate departmental committee, subject to the approval of the Executive Director and the Staff,

and after action by the Council at its officially called meetings or, in cases of emergency, by mail ballot.

For whom does the C.S.A. speak?

If the General Council has officially taken a position on any issue, the C.S.A. speaks on that issue for the General Council. Otherwise, it speaks for itself and in its own name. It does not speak for the denomination, the local churches or the church members. The C.S.A. follows in all respects the practice and usage of the Congregational Christian churches.

Is the C.S.A. political?

Congregational Christian churches have a deep and traditional concern for the health of democratic government and for democracy in all relationships.

Our denomination has always stood for "equal justice under the law." We hold to the separation of church and state; but we also believe that the churches have an enduring stake in the well-being of the state. In pursuance of this concern and following democratic procedures, the Council for Social Action provides carefully sifted information to church members upon all important public issues. The Council also, upon proper authorization, may submit statements or testimony to a Congressional Committee.

Believing that it is both ethically imperative and politically sound for Congress and the electorate to know the affiliations and purposes of all persons who seek to influence legislation, and to encourage responsible participation by our church members in good government, the Council has registered its Legislative Secretary and filed the necessary information under Public Law 601.

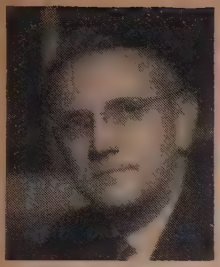
What is our Christian responsibility?

We believe that Christian principles should influence public policy. Such influence can best be exerted through the active interest and participation of informed citizens. Individual and group action is often more effective than are verbal resolutions by church bodies. Informed alert Christian citizens are the pillars of freedom, justice and public order.

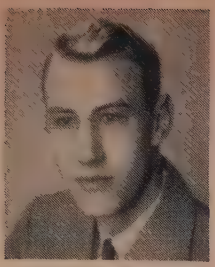
What kind of society does the C.S.A. seek?

It seeks a democratic way of life. This has been ably defined as "a responsible society where freedom is the freedom of men who acknowledge responsibility to justice and public order, and where those who hold political authority or economic power are responsible for its exercise to God and the people whose welfare is affected by it.

"Man is not made for the State but the State for man. Man is not made for production, but production for man. For a society to be responsible under modern conditions it is required that the people have freedom to control, to criticize and to change their governments, that power be made responsible by law and tradition, and be distributed as widely as possible through the whole community." (Section III "Social Disorder," (World Council of Churches, Amsterdam, 1948)



Galen R. Weaver
Religion and Race

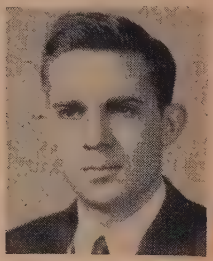


Kenneth Underwood
Editor

Shirley E. Greene
Agricultural

Francis W. McPeek
Industrial

Herman F. Reissig
International



Thomas B. Keehn
Legislative

The Staff

RAY GIBBONS, *Director*

Ray Gibbons

The Council Members

Frank D. Dorey	Mrs. W. G. Hay	Albert J. Penner
Harry E. Drobish	Oscar Holste	Liston Pope
Richard M. Fagley	Fred Hoskins	Mrs. B. A. Redington
William J. Faulkner	Mrs. Orville Jones	Lloyd Rice
Harold N. Felton	Joe Moody	Juanita Saddler
Edward Hawley	Victor Obenhaus	Mrs. Ross Snyder

The Council for Social Action

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

Is the Council biased in any way?

It seeks constructive solutions of basic social problems in the interest of freedom, justice, and public order. In foreign policy it has supported the Marshall Plan, aid to Greece and Turkey, and the Baruch plan for international control of atomic energy.

In domestic affairs, C.S.A. has supported collective bargaining, slum clearance and low-cost housing, the extension of social security, the preservation of the family farm, federal aid to education and fair employment.

What affiliations has the Council?

In addition to its integral relationship within the body of our Congregational Christian churches, and besides its close cooperation with the Federal Council of Churches, the Council participates in the National Religion and Labor Foundation, the Civil Liberties Clearing House and the National Citizens Council for Migrant Labor.

Have other denominations similar agencies?

The Evangelical and Reformed, Northern Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical United Brethren, United Lutheran, Northern Presbyterian, Southern Baptist, Protestant Episcopal and other denominations have similar official agencies.

Are state and local groups independent?

The thirty-three state conference social action committees and the more than seven hundred local church social action committees determine their own policies and program. They are responsible to the bodies which create them, but maintain a cooperative relationship with the C.S.A.

What does the Council publish?

It publishes a monthly, forty-page magazine entitled *Social Action*. Subscriptions are $1.50 per year.

In cooperation with the Commission on Christian Social Action of the Evangelical and Reformed Church it publishes a monthly, four-page program service, called *Christian Community*. This is sent without charge to all pastors and members of social action committees.

Mimeographed news services, free upon request, include the weekly *Labor Letter*, the monthly *Christian Agriculture* and an occasional *Legislative Action Service*.

Where are the offices?

The main office is at the denominational headquarters, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. The Washington office is in the building of the Washington Federation of Churches, 1751 N Street, N. W. The Chicago office is at the Chicago Theological Seminary, 1164 E. 58th Street. The Agricultural office is at Merom, Indiana.

How can you help?

You should confer with your minister, then your local church social action committee and your state conference superintendent. For further information you should consult the latest reports of the General Council, the Missions Council or the *Year Book*.

To subscribe to *Social Action*, to contribute to the support of the Council for Social Action, or to obtain further information write: The Council for Social Action, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Mr. Gibbons is the Director of the Council for Social Action.

We tithe . . . will you?

Stanbery J. Nichols, D. D. S.

Doctors, housewives, businessmen and others testify that tithing works and invite you to share the satisfaction with them.

"Does it work?" This is the question I ask when a new theory in dentistry (my profession) is advanced. Most Americans are like that, I suspect. No fancy theories, no "should be" or "ought to be." Just plain--"does it work?"

I recommend tithing as a good, workable way of Christian giving. You simply set aside one-tenth of your income for church and charity so that you have money "on hand" when the calls come for participation in Christian work at home and abroad.

There are several thousand tithers in our Congregational Christian Fellowship and there ought to be many thousands more--at least 10 per cent of the members of every church.

You are invited to become a tither. Why? Because it works. Take a look at the record of those who have tried it. It worked for them; it will work for you.

Stanbery J. Nichols

Berkeley, California

FUN

There is a real joy in this business, as every tither knows. For one thing, the whole character of giving changes. It's always fun to spend money, and the tither has a definite sum to use within the year. When you tithe, you no longer resist approaches. Instead, you welcome them. Extortions, polite and impolite, are gone; you are investing, not being wrung out now.

There is one uncomfortable aspect to this kind of stewardship. So often you find astonishing improvement in your own financial affairs. I won't attempt to explain it, but it does happen. And sometimes businesslike people come to feel that it is all a kind of deal worked out with the Lord God. "Cast your bread upon the waters . . ." They cast and prudently study tides and currents and scan the waves for floating loaves.

Ronald Bridges

Swampscott, Mass.

TITHING IN COLLEGE

I began to tithe when I started working my way through college. Most frequently I had nothing to tithe! But as my income stabilized and increased, the joy of tithing only grew deeper.

Howard A. Andrews

Decatur, Illinois

TITHING BRINGS PEACE

Among the good results of tithing for the tither and his family is the feeling of peace that the practice can give. Until he tithes a sensitive Christian is constantly torn between this appeal to his generosity and that one. If he gives to this cause, can he also give to that one? And just around the corner of his thinking is always the danger that he will become weary of what seems to him to be incessant calls for money; calls he turns aside but not with a very good inner feeling.

The tither has settled the question in a basic way. He does not necessarily restrict his giving to his tithe, but he knows that so much is available to him for the varied causes of the Kingdom. If his tithe can be stretched to include this new appeal, he is happy. If it cannot he will either dig more deeply into his resources, or he will turn aside from the appeal with less distress of mind or demoralization of spirit, for he has gladly complied with the basic appeal and can hope to go beyond it in due time.

Walter Schlaretzki

Seattle, Washington

PROMISES

. . . The promises to
hose who tithe have like-
se never been abrogated
d are literally, it
ems to me, the promises
God.

Frank C. Jackson

Oberlin, Ohio

TITHER 58 YEARS

While I do not believe
thing is the only method
giving I have prac-
iced tithing since I had
n independent income
n 1892. There wasn't
uch to tithe some years
ut the amount has in-
reased from year to year
ntil some years after my
etirement. I have one
olumn in my cash book
abeled "Beneficence"
here items chargeable
o a "tenth account" are
ntered. In most years I
ave to select items for
y 15 per cent exemption
in my income tax returns
because more than the
15 per cent has been spent
in exemption fields.

I have been blessed
all these years as is
shown by the fact that
though I started with
nothing, and have tithed,
and better, I now have
nearly as much income from
investments as I have
from my retiring allow-
ance. And I am still able
to do a lot of work for
education, church, and
community interests. One
really begins to give only
when he goes beyond the
Lord's tenth, either in
cash, time or energy.

George D. Hubbard

Watervliet, Mich.

NO BLESSING EXPECTED

Twenty-eight years
ago on our wedding day
my wife and I agreed that
we would give the Lord
one-tenth of our income
and we have never failed
yet. We did not have any
idea that by so doing we
would be made immensely
wealthy. In fact we have
never looked for any
special blessing from God
because we feel that we
are simply giving Him His
due. However, there is a
blessing that has come to
us. It has not been par-
ticularly a material one
but a spiritual one in
the form of an inner feel-
ing that we are doing what
God required and that we
are pleasing Him.

Clifford W. Hilliker

Washington, D. C.

SURPRISE AND JOY

Let us examine our
hearts, as well as our
budgets, and then discuss
the matter with God. He
is the only one who knows
all our circumstances --
our incomes, our obliga-
tions, the amounts we
spend for entertainment
and luxuries. Many of us
will be surprised to find
ourselves tithing and
receiving joy that we have
never known before. Above
all, remember that every-
thing we have comes from
Him, and no sacrifice we
can make will compare with
His great gift to us.

E. C. Blanchard,

Ashton, Illinois

HELPS MEET NEED

I have tithed for many years and can say that it is a pleasure to do so. The thing that appeals to me about this matter of tithing is that I find it is necessity. I cannot do all the giving I'd like to do as it is and give less than the tenth of my income. I fail to see how people in the church can do their giving with an amount less than the tithe. If I did not believe in tithing, as an obligation supported by the Scriptures, I do not see how I could "get by" and do less. If my income justified I'd feel that I should do much more than give the tithe. As it is I give more than the tenth anyway. It is a joy for me to give and it hurts me to see a pressing need and be unable to give to it as much as I'd like to give.

E. C. Geeding

Lansing, Michigan

RECOMMENDED

This method of tithing, which I believe is God's way (Malachi 3:6), has meant a great deal to me. Not only have I had the great joy of giving to the needy, but I have been blessed financially in a larger way than ever before. I recommend it to others.

Mrs. H. W. Meeker

White Plains, N. Y.

PRIVILEGE

I consider it a privilege and a necessity to tithe and more when possible.

T. K. Thompson

Dr. Nichols is a practicing dentist in Medina, Ohio and is Executive Secretary of the "Fellowship of Tithers among Congregational Christian Church Folk."

The Commission on Stewardship of the General Council is cooperating with the "Fellowship of Tithers among Congregational Christian Church Folk" to secure 100,000 tithers in our Fellowship by June, 1950. You are invited to become a tither and enroll in this informal national group.

Dr. Stanbery J. Nichols
56 Public Square
Medina, Ohio

Please send me information on tithing and enrollment blanks for the "Fellowship of Tithers among Congregational Christian Church Folk."

Signed_____

Address_____

We Dedicate this Gift

BERTA S. McCLINTOCK

Each year thousands of women in our Congregational Christian churches lay their gifts on the altar of devotion. And altogether they make up the national Woman's Gift.

Wherever there are churches of our fellowship, their women's organizations receive from their members and friends their personal gifts of prayer, thanksgiving and often real sacrifice.

Through the channels of local and state treasuries, these accumulated funds reach the State Conferences, and then the national boards and agencies where the outreaching work of our churches is administered. The Woman's Gift is used in many constructive ways — some are described briefly in these pages.

Within the State

What good is done by our Woman's Gift?

Last year forty-three state women's fellowships dedicated large portions of their Woman's Gift to special State Conference projects, carried out within the State Conference budgets of *Our Christian World Mission.*

Work with young people received generous support.

In Montana, for example, the Woman's Gift helped to finance the State Conference youth camp (Mimanagish), the student work program at Rocky Mountain College, and the School of Religion at Missoula.

In New York, the Woman's Gift is helping to build a new church at Ithaca. This serves our students at Cornell University, as well as the permanent residents of the community.

In Kansas, the Woman's Gift means scholarship-aid to young men and women preparing for religious vocations. It also helps to provide for religious activities on the Kansas University and Kansas State campuses.

But the Woman's Gift is not devoted to youth work alone. It is used to strengthen the entire State Conference program. It helps to supply audio-visual equipment for use among the churches; it supports race relations programs; it goes into the building of new churches. Wherever there is need, the Woman's Gift is ready.

A large share of our Woman's Gift is put to work inside the United States. We do not forget that *Our Christian World Mission* begins at home and then reaches around the world.

These gifts help the Building Society of our Board of Home Missions to construct well-equipped churches in new and inadequately churched American communities. An unchurched community is a spiritual wasteland!

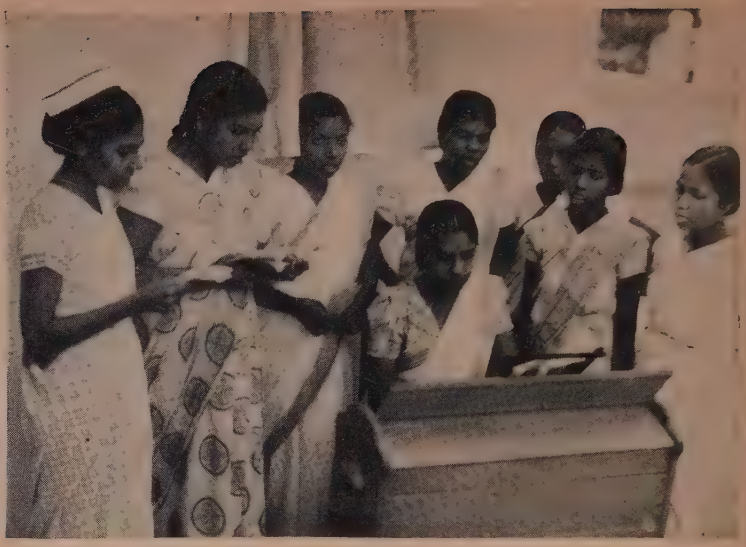
The Woman's Gift has assisted our Family Life Commission to equip leaders of parents' groups in our churches and communities with carefully prepared leaflets and programs. And we help to defray the cost of annual family life study workshops devoted to the upbuilding of America's homes.

The Legislative Committee of our Council for Social Action is sustained, in part, by our Woman's Gift. This agency of ours lives close to Congress and the State Department. It brings Christian ethics into effect upon national policies. Through the Washington Seminars, this Committee helps us more intelligently to vote and register our opinion in behalf of the common welfare.

So, our Woman's Gift serves in many ways. It is making America more Christian. It is playing an influential part in bringing our nation back to our original principles. It is challenging our secular order with the gospel of goodwill. This we, the Christian women of America, must do!

The Woman's Gift

Across the Nation



Around the World

Our Woman's Gift is largely shared with the women of the Younger Churches on the mission field. It has put healing into the hands of women doctors and trained nurses in our mission hospitals. Because of the Woman's Gift teachers serve in our mission schools. And Bible women visit in tiny villages. Goodwill and fellowship go out from us to women's groups in all our mission churches. Wherever Christian women carry the commission of our American Board for Foreign Missions, our Woman's Gift is there to represent us.

There is a Committee for Friendly Relations among Foreign Students in the United States. Have you heard of it? It welcomes foreign students upon arrival. It helps them to solve many problems: housing, transportation, money exchange and orientation in a new country. Our Woman's Gift helps to make this ministry possible.

Sound Christian literature counts heavily in a time of intellectual, moral and emotional confusion. The newly literate in every land are asking for the Bible. They are eager for children's stories and for parents' helps. They want magazines to arouse and guide youthful imaginations. They have use for pamphlets and study books on home and community life. Our Woman's Gift has helped to make such vital services available. It has provided invaluable Christian literature — bales of it. It has gone far to meet a most strategic challenge. Our Woman's Gift is the gospel in deed and word.

THE STORY OF

The Woman's Gift

It is 1941. Thirty-five women state presidents face the churches' needs — both at home and around the world. They resolve to act. By the end of the year they are organized. State Conference boards have voted to join in. Literature is ready for distribution. The Woman's Gift is under way.

It is a Sunday afternoon in June, 1942. One thousand women are gathered at Durham, New Hampshire. The General Council of the Congregational Christian churches is in session. This women's meeting has a special object. Forty thousand dollars is to be laid on the altar — and dedicated. It is the first Woman's Gift.

Two years pass. The General Council meets again, this time in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Seventy thousand dollars is the Woman's Gift in 1944. It is 1946, in Grinnell, Iowa. Once more the General Council meets. We here dedicate the Woman's Gift of $107,000. Now it is June, 1948. The General Council meets in Oberlin, Ohio. This time the altar sacrifice of the women reaches a rich total of $145,000.

Soon it will be June, 1950. Again the General Council will convene. The Woman's Gift will be reported. A new sacrifice will be placed upon the altar. Our women are not waiting until June. Meanwhile, the spirit is at work. What is it saying to your church — and to you?

Bibliography on The Woman's Gift

THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Legislative Action Service, an occasional information bulletin. Free on request to 1751 N Street, Washington 6, D. C.

Christian Community, an occasional bulletin for Social Action program leaders with frequent articles on legislative issues. Free on request to 289 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

Social Action. $1.50 per year. Also from 289 Fourth Avenue.

The Missionary Herald, February 1949, February 1950.

THE FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE

The Home Booklets — 50¢ each.

The Family Celebrates Christmas; The Family Worships Together; The Family Looks At One World (The latter available February 15, 1950).

Teaching Religion At Home — 5¢.

Church School and Home In Cooperation — Free.

Order all these from Pilgrim Press, 19 South LaSalle Street, Chicago 3, Ill. 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Mass.

BUILDING CHURCHES

The Missionary Herald, March 1949 and 1950.

Pamphlets and leaflets from the Missions Council.

LITERACY AND LITERATURE

Literacy and Literature Bulletin (April and September), 2¢ each.

Far East Newsletter No. 8 — Free (A summary of Dr. Laubach's work).

A Literate World — 10¢.

Order these three from Committee on Literacy and Christian Literature, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

Unofficial Ambassadors — 25¢. Order from Committee for Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students, 291 Broadway, New York City.

The Highway of Print, Ruth Ure — $1.50.

The Silent Billion Speak, Frank Laubach — $2.75.

Order the last two from Pilgrim Press. Address given above.

A Woman's Gift

O God, our Father, with grateful heart I bring this offering to Thee, Giver of every good gift. Bless Thou the women of our churches and care for Thy children everywhere for whom we work and pray. Enlarge our hearts with Thy love; strengthen our fellowship, uniting us in spirit and purpose, that we may be "Messengers of Thy grace, Ambassadors of God among men, Doorways through which Thou Thyself mayest enter freely into Thy world." Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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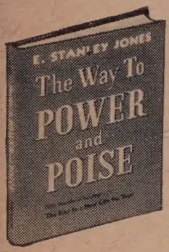
The NEW Book of Daily Devotions

by E. STANLEY JONES



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